Cir. 149 2005/2006

10 February 2006

Dear Parents/Guardians,

PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF INFLUENZA IN SCHOOL

In view of recent reports of avian influenza in Hong Kong and the discovery of the dead body of a bird infected with H5 virus in the campus, the School wishes to notify parents/guardians of the precautionary measures that will be enforced with immediate effect. Details are as follows:

A. Reminders Given to Students:
   1. Do not touch live birds, poultry and their excreta (Wash hands with soap and water immediately after contact with live birds or surfaces contaminated by bird droppings);
   2. Cover nose and mouth when sneezing or coughing and wash hands with soap and water afterwards. Avoid touching the eyes, nose or mouth;
   3. Keep hands clean and wash hands with liquid soap after using toilet, after coughing or sneezing. Use disposal towel for drying hands;
   4. If you are unwell, inform teachers immediately and put on a surgical mask;
   5. Bring tissue paper to school. Do not share personal belongings, lunch boxes and drinks. Wash hand before meal and to use serving chopsticks and spoons at mealtime;
   6. Maintain a healthy lifestyle – a balanced diet, regular exercise and adequate rest.

B. Measures to be Taken by the School:
   1. No activities that expose children to live birds would be organized in the meantime;
   2. Clean and disinfect furniture, facilities and equipment frequently touched by students with 1:99 diluted household bleaching solution regularly;
   3. Windows would be kept open to ensure good ventilation in classrooms and special rooms;
   4. Toilets would be kept clean at all times. Liquid soap and disposable towels would be available inside toilets;

C. Measures to be Taken by Parents:
1. Keep close watch of your child's health condition. If your child develops respiratory symptoms (such as fever, muscle pain and malaise, chill, headache, diarrhoea, cough, sore throat and shortness of breath), they should consult their doctor promptly, wear a surgical mask, and take rest at home and refrain from going to school as advised by their doctor. Please inform the school the details of his sickness symptoms.
2. Pay attention to the announcements of the Education and Manpower Bureau (EMB) and the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) related to Avian Influenza (Websites: www.emb.gov.hk and www.chp.gov.hk);
3. Avoid visiting places affected by Avian Influenza with your child and most importantly, to avoid contact with birds and their excreta;
4. Inform the school immediately if family members have contracted Avian Influenza. Inform the doctor that your child studies in Diocesan Boys' School.

Parents are requested to complete the attached reply slip and return it to the class-teacher by **Wednesday, 15 February 2006**.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours faithfully,

Ms. Phyllis Lo
Headteacher

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REPLY SLIP Cir. 149 2005/2006

**PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF INFLUENZA IN SCHOOL**

This is to acknowledge that I have read the circular.

_________________________  P._________ ( )  ___________________________
Student's Name       Class & Class Number       Parent's / Guardian's Signature